

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Closure device for an opening in a layer of tissue, comprising:
a plurality of separate wings which provide bearing areas and/or hold bearing areas on tissue surrounding the opening; and
a base part;
wherein:
each of the wings are held by means of a respective film hinged joint ~~joints~~ for swiveling movement on the base part;
the joints are ~~seated~~ fixed on an upper ~~side~~ surface of the base part, said upper ~~side~~ surface facing the tissue when bearing areas bear on the tissue; and
the wings are arranged for swiveling movement on the base part such that in a flapped-in position they neighboring wings at least partially overlap one another such that no part of the wings do not protrudes laterally over the base part.
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein swivel axes of the joints are oriented substantially at a right angle to a central axis of the base part.
5. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein swivel axes of the joints lie parallel to tangents to an outer circumference of the base part.

6. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the wings are held integrally on the base part.

7. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the wings in an area outside of the associated joints are of substantially rigid design.

8. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the wings hold bearing elements made of a bendable material.

9. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 8, wherein a bearing element is spanned between adjacent wings.

10. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 8, wherein in the flapped-in position the bearing elements are folded.

11. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the base part in an area outside of the joints is of substantially rigid design.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein in a flapped-out position, the wings form the bearing areas and/or hold the bearing areas on the tissue.

14. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 13, wherein in the flapped-out position, the wings are oriented substantially at a right angle to a central axis of the base part.

15. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the joints are set back on the base part in relation to a circumferential rim of the base part.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said plurality of wings comprises at least two wings.

18. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein said plurality of wings comprises diametrically opposed wings.

19. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the wings are arranged around a circumference of the base part.

20. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the base part has a round outer cross section.

21. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein a suture thread is held on the base part.

22. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the base part has spaced openings for a suture thread to pass therethrough.

23. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein in the flapped-in position, the wings extend at an incline to the base part.

24. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the base part is provided with one or a plurality of bearing areas for the wings, which inhibit swiveling of the wings beyond a bearing position.

25. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 24, wherein the bearing area or bearing areas is or are formed on a ring-shaped bearing element.

26. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 24, wherein the wings comprise a support for placement against the associated bearing areas.

27. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the wings have a width which increases in a direction away from the base part.

28. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the base part is provided with a coupling for a holding mandrel.

29. (Original) Closure device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the base part comprises a holding element for the wings and a ring element.

30. (Previously presented) Closure device in accordance with claim 29, wherein the ring element is held on the holding element by a snap closure.

31. (Currently amended) Applicator device for a closure device, said closure device comprising:
a plurality of wings which provide bearing areas and/or hold bearing areas on tissue surrounding an opening in the tissue; and
a base part;
wherein the wings are held by means of respective joints for swiveling movement on the base part;

~~said applicator device being insertable into a trocar sheath~~, said applicator device comprising:

a trocar sheath;

a positioning element which is longitudinally displaceable in the trocar sheath and by means of which the wings of the closure device are transferable from a flapped-in position in which the closure device is displaceable in the trocar sheath to a flapped-out position; ~~and~~

a holding mandrel for holding and positioning the closure device, said holding mandrel having a hollow interior through which a suture thread is guided; and

a first centering means for centering the positioning element in the trocar sheath;

wherein the positioning element provides a second centering means for the holding mandrel ~~inhibiting which substantially prevents~~ transverse movability of the holding mandrel relative to the positioning element.

32. (Previously presented) Applicator device for a closure device in accordance with claim 31, wherein the positioning element comprises bearing areas for the wings for swiveling the wings outwardly.

33. (Cancelled).

34. (Previously presented) Applicator device for a closure device in accordance with claim 31, wherein the positioning element surrounds the holding mandrel at least partially.

35. (Previously presented) Applicator device for a closure device in accordance with claim 31, wherein the holding mandrel is guided for longitudinal displacement on the positioning element.

36. (Cancelled).

37. (Cancelled).

38. (Currently amended) Applicator device for a closure device in accordance with claim 31, wherein the first centering means comprises one of a reducing sleeve or a set of reducing sleeves ~~is provided for positioning~~ centering the positioning element in the trocar sheath.